Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service
Women and Newborn Health Service

ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE	
Remdesivir	
Scope (Staff):	All WNHS Staff
Scope (Area):	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
This document should be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer.	

Quick Links

Dose	Administration	Monitoring	Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

Restrictions

Non-Formulary –

This medicine is part of the National Medical Stockpile (NMS) for the treatment of COVID-19. Refer to Statewide Medicines Formulary – Remdesivir injection for more information

HIGH RISK Medication ⚠

Medication Class

Antiviral – an adenosine nucleotide prodrug that inhibits the replication of SARS-CoV-2

Synonym

Veklury

Presentation

Form:

Powder for reconstitution - contains remdesivir 100mg

Storage

Store powder below 30°C

Once prepared, bag for infusion is stable for 4 hours below 25°C or 24 hours at 2 to 8°C.

Dose

For adult patients weighing at least 40 kg
IV:

200mg on day 1, then 100mg once daily thereafter**.**

The total duration of treatment will be dependent on disease severity

Guidelines-for-use-of-Remdesivir.pdf (health.wa.gov.au)

Administration

Remdesivir must be administered in a location with suitable access to personnel and equipment to manage suspected infusion related reactions or anaphylaxis during the infusion and for the 60-minute observation period after completion of the infusion.

This product contains no preservative, any unused portion of a single-dose remdesivir vial should be discarded after a diluted solution is prepared.

IV INFUSION

Step 1 Reconstitution:

1. Using aseptic technique, add 19mLs of WFI to remdesivir powder vial
2. Discard the vial if a vacuum does not pull the sterile water for injection into the vial
3. Shake the vial for 30 seconds to dissolve. A clear solution should result. If the contents of the vial have not completely dissolved after 2 to 3 minutes shake again and observe.
4. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the number of vials required.
5. Each reconstituted vial contains 100mg/20mL**.** Dilute immediately after reconstitution

Step 2 Dilution:

1. Obtain a 0.9% sodium chloride 250mL IV infusion bag
2. Using aseptic technique, withdraw the required volume from the infusion bag (Table 1).
3. Withdraw the required dose of remdesivir (Table 1) and add to the 0.9% sodium chloride infusion bag.

Table 1

Remdesivir dose	**Volume to be withdrawn and discarded from the infusion bag**	**Required volume of remdesivir reconstituted solution to add to infusion bag**

200mg	40mL	40mL
100mg	20mL	20mL

Gently invert the bag 20 times to mix but do not shake.

Step 3 Administration:

Infuse over 30-120 minutes. A slower rate of infusion may help to prevent infusion reactions

Monitoring

Hypersensitivity Reactions

- Infusion-related and anaphylactic reactions have been reported during and following administration of intravenous remdesivir
- Monitor for anaphylactic and infusion reactions during the infusion and for 1 hour after completion of the infusion
- If a mild to moderate infusion reaction occurs, slow or stop the infusion and treat accordingly
- If an anaphylactic reaction occurs, stop the infusion and treat immediately.

Given the limited experience with remdesivir patients should have ongoing monitoring of appropriate clinical and laboratory levels to aid in the early detection of any potential adverse effects. These should include baseline and daily urea and electrolytes, full blood picture and liver function tests

Remdesivir should be discontinued in patients who develop:

- ALT greater than or equal to 5 times the upper limit of normal during treatment with remdesivir (may be restarted when ALT is less than 5 times the upper limit of normal.)
- ALT elevation accompanied by signs or symptoms of liver inflammation or increasing conjugated bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, or international normalised ratio (INR)
- Patients with an eGFR of <30mL/minute

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Monitoring required

2nd Trimester: Monitoring required

3rd Trimester: Monitoring required

From the limited published information for remdesivir in pregnant women with COVID-19, maternal use of remdesivir has not been associated with an increased risk of congenital malformations or adverse pregnancy outcomes

For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.

Breastfeeding

Monitoring required

Remdesivir has poor oral bioavailability and breastfed infants are unlikely to receive clinically important amounts of remdesivir from breastmilk. Infants have received remdesivir therapeutically with no serious adverse effects. Remdesivir should be used with caution during breastfeeding, observe for irritability, diarrhoea, skin rash and jaundice

For more information, please contact KEMH Obstetric Medicines Information Service.

Comments

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

Statewide Medicines Formulary – remdesivir injection

Patient information leaflet

Patient consent form

Australian guidelines for the clinical care of patients with Covid-19 - Remdesivir

WA Emergency Covid-19 Treatment approval: Remdesivir-e-form

Drug Guideline - Remdesivir

COVID-19 information for health professionals

References

Covid 19 Taskforce FLOWCHART-DT-FOR-PREGNANCY

Australian guidelines for the clinical care of people with COVID-19 (magicapp.org)

Drug Guideline - Use of remdesivir injection for COVID-19 (Version 1.8, July 2022) (nsw.gov.au)

Australian Medicines Handbook. Remdesivir In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2022 [cited 2022 Jul15]. Available from: https://amhonline.amh.net.au/

The Royal Women's Hospital. Remdesivir. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2022 [cited 2022 Jul15]. Available from: https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Remdesivir . In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2021 2022 [cited 2022 Jul15]. Available from: http://aidh.hcn.com.au

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Burwick RM, Yawetz S, Stephenson KE, Collier AY, Sen P, Blackburn BG, et al. Compassionate use of remdesivir in pregnant women with severe Covid-19. Clin Infect Dis. 2020.

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The health impact upon Aboriginal people has been considered, and where relevant incorporated and appropriately addressed in the development of this document (insert ISD Number). (Please refer to the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration for Department of Health and Health Service Provider Guidelines – please delete once you have completed this).

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